

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A swing cushion of a work machine, comprising:  
a directional fluid flow device having a directional control member;  
a control device coupled to said directional fluid flow device; and  
wherein said control device outputs a ~~sinusoid~~ signal to said directional fluid flow device to repeatedly oscillate ~~shift~~ said directional control member to dissipate energy in the fluid.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The swing cushion set forth in claim 1, wherein said ~~sinusoid~~ signal has at least one variable pre-determined parameter.
4. (Previously Presented) The swing cushion system set forth in claim 3, wherein said at least one variable pre-determined parameter is one of:  
a time parameter;  
a magnitude parameter; and  
a frequency parameter.
5. (Original) The swing cushion system set forth in claim 1, wherein said control device is a programmable electronic control module.

6. (Previously Presented) The swing cushion system set forth in claim 1, wherein:

said signal has at least one variable pre-determined parameter;

said at least one variable pre-determined parameter is at least one of a time parameter, a magnitude parameter, and a frequency parameter; and

said programmable electronic control module includes an algorithm for calculating said at least one variable pre-determined parameter.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 9, including the step of sending said signal to said directional flow device.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for dissipating energy in a swing cushion system of a work machine, the system including a directional flow device having a directional control member, and a control device coupled to said directional flow device, comprising the steps of:

receiving ~~producing~~ a swing stop command;

generating a signal indicative of variable pre-determined parameters;

dissipating energy in said swing cushion system using said signal; and

repeatedly oscillating said directional control member to dissipate energy in said swing cushion system in response to said signal.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for dissipating energy in a swing cushion system of a work machine, the system including a directional flow device having a directional control member, and a control device coupled to said directional flow device, comprising the steps of:

~~producing~~ receiving a stop swing command;  
generating a repeated oscillating signal indicative of variable pre-determined parameters; and  
dissipating energy in said swing cushion system using said repeated oscillating signal, wherein generating said repeated oscillating signal includes the steps of:  
providing a variable pre-determined parameter indicative of the position of the directional control member;  
providing a variable pre-determined parameter indicative of a change rate of said swing command; and  
producing a ~~sinusoid~~ signal indicative of said change rate.

11. (Currently Amended) The method set forth in claim 10, including the step of sending said repeated oscillating signal to said directional flow device.

Please add new Claims 12-19 as follows:

12. (New) A hydraulic system for a work machine having a linkage, comprising:  
at least one motor coupled to the linkage;  
a directional flow device coupled to the at least one motor and having a directional control member; and  
a control device configured to send a signal to the directional flow device that repeatedly oscillates the directional control member to dissipate energy in the hydraulic system.

13. (New) The hydraulic system of claim 12, wherein the linkage is a boom assembly.
14. (New) The hydraulic system of claim 12, wherein the signal has at least one variable predetermined parameter.
15. (New) The hydraulic system of claim 14, wherein the at least one predetermined parameter is one of a time parameter, a magnitude parameter, or a frequency parameter.
16. (New) The hydraulic system of claim 12, wherein the control device is an electronic control module.
17. (New) The hydraulic system of claim 12, wherein the work machine is a backhoe loader.
18. (New) The hydraulic system of claim 12, wherein the signal is a sinusoidal signal having a frequency of approximately 10 Hertz.
19. (New) The hydraulic system of claim 12, wherein the signal oscillates the directional control member 5 times.